

State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations

33 S. King Street, Room 520
Honolulu, HI 96813

January 24, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Supporting Comments - Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. - Petition for
Waiver of the Definition of "Study Area," CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am Anthony H. Sang, Chairman of the State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations (SCHHA). The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 and the land trust that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands administers was established in perpetuity for all beneficiaries of the Act. In 1987, the SCHHA was established to provide a mechanism through which beneficiaries (i.e. homesteaders) could effectively unite and voice their *mana'o* (thoughts) on matters and issues of concern. Since then, SCHHA has grown and transitioned itself into a valuable statewide homestead community-based organization consisting of 23 organizations representing over 30,000 homesteaders.

This matter before you regarding the petition for waiver submitted by Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. (SIC) is an issue of great concern to all homesteaders in the state. The native Hawaiian owned and operated company took on the challenge back in 1997 to provide service to our homestead communities where no one else was willing to serve, no matter where they were located. This is no easy task as some of our homestead areas are in very isolated areas, however despite the costs and the obstacles, SIC moved as quickly as possible to provide them connectivity. Furthermore, we are happy to say that the services of SIC have proven to be affordable and reliable.

SIC is working very hard to achieve their goal of improving our quality of life by providing a first rate infrastructure that will one day connect all Hawaiian homesteaders and allow us to fully compete in this global economy.

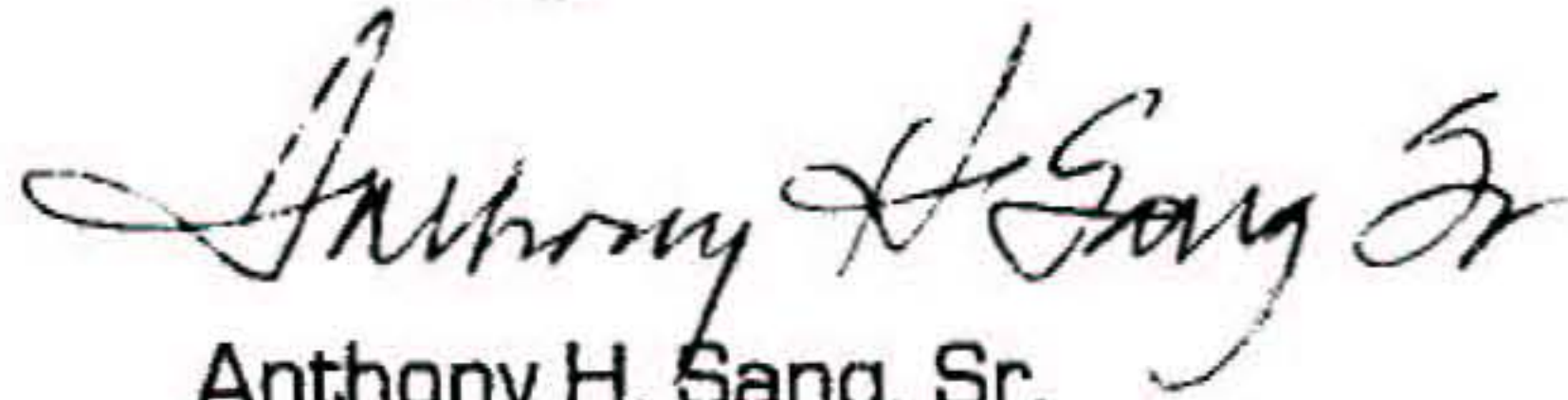
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SIC deserves your continued support and assistance. We ask for your favorable consideration to approve the SIC petition and allow them to continue reaching unserved areas on Hawaiian Home Lands as our exclusive service provider. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony H. Sang, Sr.".

Anthony H. Sang, Sr.
Chairman